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**MAILED**

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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,453,044	:	
Issue Date: September 17, 2002	:	
Application No. 09/696,238	:	ON PETITION
Filed: October 26, 2000	:	
Attorney Docket No. LIT-016	:	

This is a decision on the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed May 11, 2011, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on September 18, 2010, for failure to pay the seven and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

It should be noted that when submitting papers to the USPTO an attorney/agent should provide their registration number along with their signature.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Kimberly Inabinet at (571) 272-4618.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

/Kimberly Inabinet/

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